




Re: Media Inquiry - Atrazine review 
Mark Macintyre to: Lee van der Voo
Bcc: Scott Downey

12/01/2011 03:07 PM

Lee: Here's what I got from HQ:

Question # 1. : In terms of the Atrazine Review, where are we in the process and what does it look like from here?

EPA is carefully reviewing the recently issued report of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) from its July 2011 meeting on atrazine. At EPA's request, the SAP provided advice about the tools, approaches and endpoints EPA might use in its assessment of potential cancer and non-cancer human health risks of exposure to atrazine.

EPA values the SAP's assessment of the atrazine cancer epidemiology studies published 1985 through 2011. Even though the panel agreed with EPA that the epidemiologic evidence does not strongly suggest a link between atrazine and cancer, the panel did not agree that a lack of strong evidence justifies a conclusion that atrazine is not likely to be a human carcinogen. The panel noted some suggestive epidemiologic findings for specific tumors that warrant additional analyses prior to EPA's full weight-of-evidence review of the cancer classification for atrazine.

Following the EPA's Cancer Assessment Guidelines, the agency will weigh and integrate all of the lines of scientific evidence (e.g., toxicology, metabolism, epidemiology, mode-of-action studies). EPA plans to take the recommendations from this SAP report as well as all previous SAPs into account as it updates the state of the science on the health effects of atrazine. The scientific information will be thoroughly considered in registration review (periodic reevaluation) of atrazine, scheduled to begin in 2013.

Question #2

Is the data that is currently being in the Oregon public health study of Atrazine exposure going to be included in the EPA's broader, national review of Atrazine?

EPA considers all scientifically valid new studies and information during registration review. As such, the agency will use new findings from the ongoing public health investigation in Oregon as appropriate during the registration reviews of [2,4-D and] atrazine, which are scheduled to begin in 2013.

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